

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-13. (canceled)

14. (New) A flexible jewel pouch for holding a jewel, comprising

a metal mesh dimensioned to hold the jewel therein, having a top opening and having a plurality of apertures including a largest aperture which is smaller than the jewel;

a mesh carrying arrangement slidably attached to the mesh along the top opening,

wherein when the jewel is placed in the mesh, the mesh suspends from the mesh carrying arrangement and the weight of the jewel causes the mesh carrying arrangement to at least partially close the top opening of the mesh thereby securing the jewel therein.

15. (New) The pouch of claim 14, further comprising slider rings attached to the mesh along the top opening for facilitating sliding of the mesh carrying arrangement along the mesh at the top opening.

16. (New) The pouch of claim 14, further comprising a clasping means for securing the jewel within the mesh.

17. (New) The pouch of claim 16, further comprising slider rings attached to the mesh along the top opening and the clasping means engages with at least two of said slider rings for arranging the top opening in a continuous loop.

18. (New) The pouch of claim 14, wherein the mesh carrying arrangement is, or is attachable to, one of a necklace, a bracelet, an anklet and an ear engaging arrangement.

19. (New) The pouch of claim 14, wherein the mesh comprises metal chain strands joined to other metal chain strands at intervals.

20. (New) The pouch of claim 19, wherein the mesh comprises a bottom ring at its bottom and the metal chain strands engage said ring.

21. (New) The pouch of claim 14, wherein the mesh has chain strands extending below it as a fringe.

22. (New) The pouch of claim 14, wherein the plurality of apertures are essentially the same size.

23. (New) The pouch of claim 14, wherein the mesh is composed of chain strands comprising chains of essentially equal length.

24. (New) A fashion accessory comprising in combination: at least one jewel pouch according to claim 14, and a jewel placed within at least one of the pouches.

25. (New) A jewelry kit comprising in combination: at least one jewel pouch according to claim 14 and a set of jewels comprising at least two jewels, each being capable of fitting into the mesh and having at least one visual characteristic different one from the other.

26. (New) An apparatus comprising in combination: a. jewel pouch formed using a bottom ring for closing a bottom end of the jewel pouch; engaged with, and extending upwardly from the bottom ring, a plurality of metal chain strands; each one of the chain strands joined to immediately adjacent ones of the chain strands by attachment rings at spaced-apart intervals, thereby forming a mesh sidewall of the jewel pouch with a plurality of apertures; a terminal upper end of each of the chain strands slidingly engaged with a jewel support band having a clasp means for closing the jewel support band in a continuous loop; and a jewel held within the jewel pouch, wherein with the jewel pouch suspended from the jewel support band, the weight of the jewel is sufficient to cause the terminal upper ends of the strands to slide along the jewel

support band into mutual adjacency for closing a top end of the jewel pouch for capturing the jewel therein.

27. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, further comprising slider rings joining the terminal upper ends of the strands with the jewel support band.

28. (New) The apparatus of claim 27, further comprising a safety clasp engaged with at least two of the slider rings for securing the jewel pouch in a top closed attitude.

29. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the jewel support band is a necklace.

30. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the jewel support band is one of a bracelet and an anklet.

31. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the jewel support band is an ear engaging means.

32. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the chain strains extend below the bottom ring as a fringe.